

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 960

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Mary Bost for being honored as Youth of the Year for Tennessee by the Boys and Girls Clubs.

WHEREAS, it is fitting for the members of this General Assembly to salute those young citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as emerging community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bost, an esteemed resident of Knoxville and a Fulton High School senior, was recently honored as the Youth of the Year for Tennessee by the Boys and Girls Clubs; she will participate in the Boys and Girls Club Regional Youth of the Year Competition, representing Tennessee in fine fashion; and

WHEREAS, sponsored by Reader's Digest Foundation since its inception in 1947 and administered by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, this praiseworthy awards program recognizes superior leadership skills, academic achievement, the obstacles overcome by its award winners, and outstanding service to the Boys and Girls Club and the community; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bost's commitment to her family and the community earned her the statewide award; she placed first among fourteen competitors across Tennessee, and was judged on her commitment to the community, the Boys and Girls Club, and her family; and

WHEREAS, letters of support focused on her moral character, positive peer interactions, extracurricular activities, leadership, and service in the community; she also submitted two essays: one describing what the Boys and Girls Club has meant to and done for her; the other explaining why post-high school education is important; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bost has been with the Western Heights Boys and Girls Club for four years and has completed most of her community activities there as a junior staff member; she volunteers with young children, tutoring them in English and mathematics; and

WHEREAS, in addition to serving as a member of the Boys and Girls Club, Mary Bost is a member of the Keystone Club, where she works with teens in the Western Heights area; as a group, this teen-oriented community service club chooses the activities in which it will participate and determines how it can improve and give back to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bost also participated in picking up trash and sewing patches on the uniforms of soldiers stationed overseas; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bost will receive two scholarships to use toward her college education: \$1,000 from the Reader's Digest Foundation for her commitments, and \$5,000 from the Tennessee Titans Foundation, a supporter of the Boys and Girls Clubs; she will attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville or Tennessee State University in Nashville in the fall, and plans to pursue a career in pediatric nursing; and

WHEREAS, on June 15-16, Mary Bost will participate in the Southeast Regional Competition in Atlanta, where she will compete against eight other contestants from the Southeast for a position in the national competition; each State Representative will deliver a speech and answer questions about her or his dedication to family, Club, and community; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bost is most grateful to the Western Heights Boys and Girls Club for the positive impact it has made in her life by providing a safe and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, epitomizing the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; Mary Bost now takes her place among the many noble citizens who have earned Tennessee the nickname of "The Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of young people like Mary Bost who use their talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mary Bost, a young woman of extraordinary character, spirit, and talent, on being honored as Youth of the Year for Tennessee by the Boys and Girls Clubs, recognize her outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership, and community spirit, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.